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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/531,527	04/15/2005	Jianming Xu	139360USPCT	9098
Alcatel Intellectual Property Department 3400 W Plano Parkway M/S LELG2 Plano, TX 75075			EXAMINER CONTEE, JOY KIMBERLY	
			ART UNIT 2617	PAPER NUMBER
			MAIL DATE 05/22/2007	DELIVERY MODE PAPER

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/531,527

Applicant(s)

XU ET AL.

Examiner

Joy K. Contee

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 07 July 2006.
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-6 and 19-23 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-6, 19-23 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
- Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
- 6) ☐ Other: _____

DETAILED ACTION***Response to Arguments***

1. Applicant's arguments filed 7/7/06 have been fully considered but they are not persuasive. Applicant argues for claims 1-6 that Britt fails to disclose a central node; triggering a first query to the central node; and triggering a second query from the central node and triggering a third query from the central node. Examiner disagrees. Britt discloses a HLR which reads on the central node in applicant's invention. Further the HLR is connected to the Number Portability Database (NPDB) and the HLR includes a signaling mechanism which allows for triggering a first, second and third query to and from the HLR or central node. The HLR communicates with the originating MSC and the NPDB (see col. 1, lines 49- col. 2, line 19).

Applicant also argues that for independent claim 19, that Britt fails to disclose a central node in communication with HLRs and first and second tables accessible to the central node. Again, Examiner disagrees. In this case, since the Britt teaches that the HLR includes a signaling mechanism, it is read on the again on the central node which is in communication with the HLR itself (see col. 1, lines 49-59). Further the first and second tables accessible to the central node is read as the NPDB with stores a plurality of location routing numbers.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

2. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

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A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

3. Claims 106 and 19-23-23 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Britt et al. (Britt), U.S. Patent No. 6,226,517.

Regarding claim 1, Britt discloses a method for minimizing call setup delay for a call in a communication network, wherein the communication network includes a central node connected to a number portability database, the method comprising: triggering a first query to the central node for information for routing the call when a request for setting up the call is received by a switching unit; triggering a second query from the central node to a home location register for the routing information in order to set up the call; and triggering a third query from the central node to the number portability database for the routing information if the second query fails to provide the routing information (col. 1, line 49- col. 2, line 19 and line 41 – col. 3, line 42).

Regarding claim 2, Britt discloses the method of claim 1 further comprising selecting the home location register from a first table accessible to the central node, wherein the home location register is selected based on a mobile station ISDN and a state of a flag (col. 3, lines 20-43).

Regarding claim 3, Britt discloses the method of claim 1 further comprising searching a second table for a location routing number before triggering the

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second query, wherein the second query is only triggered if the location routing number is not found in the second table (col. 3, lines 20-43).

Regarding claim 4, Britt discloses the method of claim 1 wherein the home location register has a number portability mapping database for mapping ported numbers, wherein each mobile phone known to the home location register is identifiable by its mobile station ISDN number, and wherein triggering the second query includes searching number portability mapping database for a mobile station ISDN number associated with the call (col. 1, line 49- col. 2, line 19 and line 41 – col. 3, line 42).

Regarding claim 5, Britt discloses the method of claim 1 wherein the call is made from one wireless communication network to another (col. 1, line 49- col. 2, line 19 and line 41 – col. 3, line 42).

Regarding claim 6, Britt discloses the method of claim 5 wherein the two wireless communication networks use different technologies (col. 1, line 49- col. 2, line 19 and line 41 – col. 3, line 42).

Regarding claim 19, Britt discloses a telecommunications system adapted for minimizing call setup delay for a call associated with a first mobile station identifier, the system comprising: a plurality of home location registers (HLRs); a central node in communication with the HLRs; a first table accessible to the central node, wherein the first table contains a plurality of mobile station identifiers and associated location routing numbers; a second table accessible to the central node, wherein the second table contains a plurality of mobile station

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identifiers, wherein each identifier is associated with one of the HLRs; and instructions adapted for execution by the central node, the instructions including: instructions for searching the first table for a second mobile station identifier that matches the first mobile station identifier and sending a query to a network entity identified by the associated location routing number if a match is found; and instructions for searching the second table for a second mobile station identifier that matches the first mobile station identifier and sending a query to the associated HLR if a match is found (col. 1, line 49- col. 2, line 19 and line 41 – col. 3, line 42).

Regarding claim 20, Britt discloses the telecommunications system of claim 19 further comprising a number portability database (NPDB) connected to the central node, and instructions for querying the NPDB if no match is found after searching of the first and second tables.

Regarding claim 21, Britt discloses the telecommunications system of claim 19 further comprising a network switch in communication with the central node, wherein the network switch is adapted for querying the central node for routing information when the switch receives a request to set up the call.

Regarding claim 22, Britt discloses the telecommunications system of claim 19 wherein at least some of the plurality of HLRs are based on different technologies.

Regarding claim 23, Britt discloses the telecommunications system of claim 19 wherein the instructions further include instructions for receiving and

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sending messages based on different technologies (col. 1, line 49- col. 2, line 19 and line 41 – col. 3, line 42).

Conclusion

4. **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL.** Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire **THREE MONTHS** from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within **TWO MONTHS** of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the **THREE-MONTH** shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than **SIX MONTHS** from the mailing date of this final action.

5. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Joy K. Contee whose telephone number is 571.272.7906. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday through Friday, 5:30 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

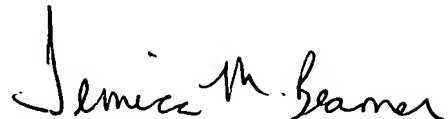
If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Charles Appiah can be reached on 571.272.7904. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

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Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

JC

JOHN L. CONTEE
PATENT EXAMINER


TEMICA BEAMER
PRIMARY EXAMINER